

1 CLAIMS:

1. A drip irrigation hose having an interior surface, an exterior surface and a water supply passage extending therethrough, the hose comprising:

5 one or more outlets connecting the water supply passage to the exterior of the hose; and one or more root deterrent strips attached to the interior surface or the exterior surface of the hose at or near the outlets, each root deterrent strip comprising a fabric strip impregnated with a chemical herbicide.

10 2. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 1, wherein the one or more root deterrent strips are attached to the exterior surface of the hose.

3. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 1, wherein the one or more root deterrent strips are attached to the interior surface of the hose.

15 4. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 1, wherein the one or more root deterrent strips are attached longitudinally to a surface of the hose.

20 5. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 1, wherein the one or more root deterrent strips are wrapped around a surface of the hose.

6. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 1, wherein each root deterrent strip covers at least one outlet.

25 7. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 1, wherein each root deterrent strip comprises felt.

8. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 1, wherein each root deterrent strip comprises a needle-punched non-woven fabric.

30 9. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 1, wherein the chemical herbicide is selected from the group consisting of trifluralin, ethalfluralin, pendimethalin, oryzalin, dinoseb, bromoxynil, paraquat, bromoxynil octanoic acid ester, 2,3,6.-trichlorobenzoic acid, 2,4-dichlorophenoxy acetic acid, and copper hydroxide.

35 10. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 1 wherein the chemical herbicide is trifluralin.

1 11. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 1 wherein the chemical herbicide is copper hydroxide.

5 12. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 1 made of a flexible film.

13. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 1, wherein the hose is a hard hose.

10 14. A drip irrigation hose having an interior surface, an exterior surface, a water supply passage and a plurality of flow regulating channels that are smaller than the water supply passage, the flow regulating channels each comprising:

an inlet section comprising one or more openings connecting the water supply passage to that flow regulating channel, and

an outlet section comprising one or more openings connecting that flow regulating channel to the exterior of the hose;

15 wherein the hose further comprises one or more root deterrent strips attached to the interior surface or the exterior surface of the hose at or near the openings of the inlet section or the outlet section, each root deterrent strip comprising a fabric strip impregnated with a chemical herbicide.

20 15. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 14, wherein the one or more root deterrent strips are at or near the openings of the outlet section.

25 16. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 14, wherein the one or more root deterrent strips are attached longitudinally to the exterior of the hose over the openings of the outlet section.

30 17. A drip irrigation hose according to claim 14, wherein the root deterrent strip comprises a needle-punched non-woven fabric impregnated with copper hydroxide.

35